APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/580,296	05/26/2000	Roger Flores	PALM-2941.US.P	9938

7590   07/31/2003

WAGNER, MURABITO & HAO LLP
Third Floor
Two North Market Street
San Jose, CA   95113

EXAMINER
BAUTISTA, XIOMARA L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2173	

DATE MAILED: 07/31/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Applicati n No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/580,296	FLORES ET AL.
	Examin r	Art Unit
	X L Bautista	2173

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sh et with th correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _26 May 2000_ .

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-20_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1-20_ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

    If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

    a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1.   Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of

the disclosure.

   The <u>abstract should be</u> in narrative form and generally <u>limited to a single</u>

<u>paragraph</u> on a separate sheet <u>within the range of 50 to 150 words.</u> It is important

that the abstract <u>not exceed 150 words in length</u> since the space provided for the

abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal

phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be

avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers

in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102

that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in
> public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in
> the United States.

3.   **Claims 1-3 and 7-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being**

anticipated by *Dunsmuir et al* (US 5,638,522).

Claim 1:

Dunsmuir discloses a method of signaling that an event has occurred. An

application program (col. 3, lines 14-25; col. 5, lines 17-24; col. 25, lines 5-20)

requests a display attribute (col. 18, lines 11-40; col. 19, lines 36-42) for an event

object (col. 18, lines 41-44) to be displayed on a display screen, including an event

type (col. 16, lines 59-65) corresponding to the event object (abstract). In

response to the request, indexing a table with the event type and a screen

capability flag to obtain the display attributes, wherein the table is located

externally of the application program and has a plurality of display attribute lists

having a display attribute corresponding to each event type (col. 3, lines 25-32;

col. 12, lines 49-62; figs. 10-12, 18; col. 18, lines 15-22; col. 26, lines 38-40).

The application program displays the event objects on the display screen with the

display attributes, wherein a user of the computer system is signaled that an event

has occurred (col. 2, lines 15-27; col. 5, lines 17-24; col. 19, lines 36-42; col. 22,

lines 24-48; col. 23, lines 8-15).

Claims 2 and 16:

See claim 1. Dunsmuir teaches setting display attributes in a graphical user

interface (table) such that the display attribute conveys a particular meaning to the

user (col. 5, lines 17-24; col. 18, lines 12-67; col. 19, lines 1-22, 36-42; col. 22,

lines 24-48; col. 23, lines 8-15; col. 25, lines 5-20).

Claims 3 and 17:

Dunsmuir teaches color as a display attribute (col. 19, lines 36-41; col. 23, lines 8-15).

Claim 7:

Dunsmuir teaches changing of display attributes (abstract; col. 19, lines 36-42).

Claim 8:

Dunsmuir teaches that the user is enabled to change display attributes (abstract; col. 20, lines 30-33; col. 22, lines 19-48; col. 25, lines 5-20).

Claim 9:

Dunsmuir teaches a table residing in the operating system of the computer (col. 16, lines 53-65; fig. 10).

Claim 10:

See claims 1 and 9. Dunsmuir teaches in fig. 10 an event system 240 having a schedule manager 242 that includes a program grid 244 and a dispatcher 258. In response to events and conditions listed in the grid, the schedule manager carries out associated actions 266 that are also defined in the grid (col. 16, lines 53-65; fig. 10). The schedule manager grid displays (after accessing a screen capability flag) graphic icons representing events, conditions, actions, etc., (col. 18, lines 11-44).

Claims 11 and 13-15:

See claim 1. Dunsmuir teaches that although computer 32 is illustrated as a desktop unit, a relatively smaller notebook size computer (portable, palmtop, palmsize) can also be used (col. 9, lines 52-54).

Claims 12:

See claim 1. Dunsmuir teaches a processor coupled to a bus, a display screen, a memory unit coupled to the bus and having instructions that when executed by the processor implement a method of signaling that an event has occurred; and an application program requesting display attributes for an event object to be displayed (col. 3, lines 60-67; col. 4, lines 20-34; col. 9, lines 30-54; col. 31, lines 1-6; fig. 1).

Claims 18 and 19:

See claims 1 and 11. Dunsmuir teaches events external to the computer system that trigger a call by the application program to request the display attribute for the event object. An example of these external events is the events and conditions relating to stock prices, other parameters of the companies represented by the stock shares, and changes in stock indexes (col. 28, lines 30-59).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for

all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as
> set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be
> patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious
> at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said
> subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the
> invention was made.

5.   Claims 4-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

***Dunsmuir* in view of *Dev et al* (US 6,374,293 B1).**

Claims 4-6:

Dunsmuir teaches condition symbols that represent a different condition that

must be satisfied and event symbols that represent events that might occur but

fails to teach display attributes that convey a particular meaning such as warning,

caution, and good status. However, Dev discloses a network management system

having inference handlers that are triggered by predetermined virtual network

events such as change in specified network data in a model (software object,

multifunction icon), predefined events or changes in models or model relations. An

alarm condition is generated when the network data meets predetermined criteria.

The network management system provides location views; figs. 7A-7C illustrate a

location view having a map 300 with network locations indicated by icons 302

(7A) including a name label indicating a network location; the color of the circle

306 indicates a status of that location. For example, green may indicate a normal

status, whereas red may indicate a fault or trouble status (warning), (col. 2, lines

54-67; col. 6, lines 22-29; col. 12, lines 39-47). Dev teaches a multifunction icon

400 (fig. 9) that includes bar graphs 406 and 408 for indicating performance

parameters, a background area 414 for representing the status of the network

device by different colors, etc., (col. 14, lines 13-22). Therefore, it would have

been obvious to one ordinarily skilled in the art at the time the invention was made

to modify Dunsmuir to include Dev's method of displaying status information using

different colors for different meanings (situations, locations, conditions, actions,

status, events, alarms, tasks, etc.) because the user is visually and dynamically

informed of the state of a device (element, icon, etc.) so that he can act

accordingly.

6.   **Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over**

***Dunsmuir* in view of *Blair et al* (US 6,111,572).**

Claim 20:

Dunsmuir does not teach that the event external to the computer system is

the computer entering a certain geographic location. However, Blair discloses a

graphic calendar display method for use in displaying locale-sensitive information

such as local holidays (col. 1, lines 1-4). The method displays a graphical

representation of a calendar that adapts its display to the conventions of the locale

in which it is being run (col. 2, lines 21-24; col. 6, lines 1-21). In a runtime

operation, a representation of a first calendar is displayed with a first set of holiday

objects; upon a given action, the method then automatically displays a

representation of a second calendar with a second set of holiday objects. The first

and second set of holiday objects may be displayed in different ways, such as

different colors, so that the user may readily identify the differences between the

two sets (col. 2, lines 42-61). Thus, it would have been obvious to one having

ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify Dunsmuir system to

include Blair's local-sensitive method of displaying information according to the

locale in which the computer is located because as Blair says, many organizations

have computers connected in a large geographically-dispersed network environment

that are managed in a distributed manner; managed nodes are often located across

national boundaries and the multinational companies that operate such networks

must deal with scheduling administrative events in these different locales; therefore

it may be necessary to distribute programs or display information that has to be

presented in a culturally correct format.

Conclusion

7.   The prior art made of record on form PTO-892 and not relied upon is

considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Applicant is required under 37

C.F.R. § 1.111(c) to consider these references fully when responding to this

action. The documents cited therein teach methods for signaling a user of a

computer system that a particular event has occurred by using (or changing)

display attributes (such as color).

8.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from

the examiner should be directed to X L Bautista whose telephone number is (703)

305-3921. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th (8:00-18:00) Fridays

Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the

examiner's supervisor, John W Cabeca can be reached on (703) 308-3116. The

fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is

assigned are (703) 746-7239 for regular communications and (703) 746-7238 for

After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or

proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)

305-3900.

X L Bautista
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2173

xlb
July 22, 2003